

Weekly Status & Information Report: April 30 - May 4, 2012

1. **Ward 5 Night - Monday!** Join the City Council and your neighbors in Ward 5 for a reception in the Atrium Lobby on Monday, May 7, 7-7:30 p.m. Light refreshments will be served. Following the reception, the first part of the City Council meeting will be dedicated to hearing from residents of Ward 5. Contact Jessie Carpenter at 301-891-7267 or JessieC@takomagov.org for additional information. *(City Clerk)*

2. **Official City Meetings Scheduled the Week of May 7, 2012:**

- City Council meeting, Monday, May 7, 7:30 p.m. in the Auditorium
- Tree Commission meeting, Tuesday, May 8, 6:30 p.m. in the Lilac Room
- Facade Advisory Board meeting, Tuesday, May 8, 7:00 p.m. in the Hydrangea Room
- Emergency Preparedness Committee meeting, Thursday, May 10, 8:30 a.m. in the Hydrangea Room

All meetings are held in the Community Center, 7500 Maple Avenue, and are open to the public unless noted otherwise. *(City Clerk)*

3. **Sephardic Music this Saturday - May 5:** "We are Takoma" is pleased to present the Sephardic music of La Rondinella tomorrow, Saturday, May 5 at 7:30 p.m. in the Takoma Park Auditorium. La Rondinella is known for "the care and spirit of their performances, particularly in those pieces that give a sense of longing and wandering, reflective of that of the Sephardim." For more information, check out our Facebook page www.facebook.com/TakomaParkMD/events *(Housing and Community Development)*

4. **TKPK 5K this Sunday - May 6:** Lace up for the Safe Routes to School Takoma Park 5 K Challenge: <http://www.tkpk5k.com/>. Registration at City Sports Silver Spring from 2:00 to 6:00 on Saturday, May 5 or at the race on Sunday starting at 7 a.m. The 5K run/walk starts at 8:00 a.m., the 1 mile run starts at 9 a.m. and the 1/4 mile youth run starts at 9:15 a.m. *(Housing and Community Development)*

5. **Bedtime Stories:** Join us for Bedtime Story Hour this coming Monday May 7 at 7:00 p.m. Come in p.j.s and bring your favorite stuffed toy as Ms. Karen reads stories, sings songs and rhymes in this half hour program. For babies, toddlers, preschoolers and their grown-ups. *(Library)*

6. **Tenants Rights Class - Tuesday, May 8:** Do you have a question regarding your rights as a tenant? The Takoma Park Landlord-Tenant staff will be at the Takoma Park Community Center, 7500 Maple Avenue, on Tuesday, May 8 from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. to answer all your questions. Topics include security deposits, notices to vacate, rules regarding the right of a landlord to enter your unit, rent stabilization and landlord and tenant obligations. To register for the class or for further information, call 301.891.7215. *(Housing and Community Development)*

7. **Ladies Boot Camp Starts a New Session:** On Tuesday, May 1, Ladies Boot Camp began a new session at the Takoma Park Recreation Center. The instructor, Antoine Sharp, led the young ladies through a strenuous but lively workout. All of the participants are successfully following a path of physical fitness. Come on out and register for this fun-filled class. For more information contact John Webster at 301-891-7290. *(Recreation)*

8. **Bike-In Movie Night - It's Almost Here:** Have you circled May 11 on your calendar? If not, it's probably a great idea to do so because next Friday is 'SHOWTIME.' The Takoma Park Recreation Department will be hosting a movie night in the park on Friday, May 11. Bring the whole family out for a night of fun and community. This free event is open to all ages. Event will be held at Lee Jordan Field (behind Takoma Park Middle School), 7611 Piney Branch Road. Seating will begin at 8:00 p.m. and the movie will begin playing at dusk. Event is co-sponsored by the Housing & Community Development Department and the Takoma Park Police Department. For additional information please contact Lew McAllister at (301)891-7284 or LewM@takomagov.org. *(Recreation)*

9. **Bike to School Day - May 9:** After the TKPK 5 K race, prepare to switch gears later in the week with the first-ever National Bike to School Day on Wednesday, May 9. Parents, students and school personnel can meet at 7620 Maple Ave with bikes and helmets ready to ride to school together. A short assembly will follow. All are welcome. *(Housing and Community Development)*

10. **Register for Bike To Work Day - May 18:** Takoma Park is joining the Bike To Work Day network this year with three 'pit stops' in the City: at the Old Town Gazebo, on Sligo Creek Trail, and at the Takoma/Langley Crossroads. Whether traveling to work, school, or Metro, anyone commuting by bike the morning of May 18 can participate in this free event. All registrants get a t-shirt at their pit stop, are treated to refreshments, and entered to win prizes like bikes and messenger bags. Learn more about the event and register at www.biketoworkmetrodc.org. *(Housing and Community Development)*

11. **Be A Volunteer!** Volunteers are needed to help at the Friends of the Library Book Sale on May 19 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. This is a wonderful opportunity to help the Library while you visit with your neighbors and find terrific bargains as well. Volunteer hours are in two-hour shifts from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Service learning hours are available for motivated high school students. Email Ellen Robbins at ellenr@takomagov.org to volunteer. *(Library)*

12. **GO Committee Supports Municipal Tax Duplication Payments:** On April 30, Mayor Bruce Williams, Mayor Sidney Katz of Gaithersburg, City Manager Barbara Matthews, Police Chief Ron Ricucci, Deputy City Manager Suzanne Ludlow and staff representatives of several Montgomery County municipalities attended the County Council Government Operations (GO) Committee

budget work session. The Committee supported the County Executive's request for an additional one-time payment for services that municipalities provide but for which the County collects tax but does not provide the service. The GO Committee also supported a large additional payment to the City of Takoma Park for police services. A final decision is up to the full County Council later in May. *(Deputy City Manager)*

13. Bikeshare Program Coming to Takoma Park: Montgomery County was awarded a grant to implement Bikeshare in the lower county. The \$1 million grant will help pay for a portion of the construction and equipment costs for 50 bikeshare docking stations and 350 bikes. Takoma Park will be among the first recipients of new stations. For more information, see the County's press release: www.montgomerycountymd.gov/apps/News/press/PR_details.asp?PrID=8456. *(Housing and Community Development)*

14. Takoma Park Bikeways Application: The Community Development Division is submitting an application to the Maryland Bikeways program for funding new signed bicycling routes along Elm Avenue and Poplar Avenue. These routes will connect Old Town and Takoma Junction with the Sligo Creek Hiker/Biker Trail and New Hampshire Avenue. For more information on the program, see: www.cycle.maryland.gov. *(Housing and Community Development)*

15. Draft New Ave Streetscape Standards: The New Hampshire Avenue Streetscape Standards will set the look, tone, and feel of our community, and change how people walk, bike, get to the bus, and do their shopping on the New Ave. A draft of the Standards is posted for public comment on the New Ave website: www.thenewave.com/development/projects/streetscape-standards. Residents and business owners on the corridor are encouraged to review the Standards and send their feedback to ErkinO@takomagov.org. *(Housing and Community Development)*

16. Smashing Smoothie's and Movie Rap Night for Teens: Smashing Smoothies and Movie Rap Night for teens kicked off with a bang. Thirty young people gathered in the Teen Lounge to watch the movie, "The Great Debaters." After the movie, teens participated in a discussion designed to stimulate positive and informative conversation to assist in developing respect for themselves and others. A raffle was drawn at the end of the discussion and the winner received a \$25 visa gift card. This FREE program is offered every first and third Thursday of the month from 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. For more information or to register today, please contact Leicia Monfort at (301) 891-7223. *(Recreation)*

17. New Session Seniors Tai Chi: Active adults, age 55 and older, are invited to join the new summer session of Tai Chi. This free 12-week session begins May 7 through August 1, 2012, Dance Room, Takoma Park Community Center. For more information, please contact Paula Lisowski, Seniors Program Manager, at 301-891-7280 or PaulaL@takomagov.org. *(Recreation)*

18. Zumba Class Continues: With Kim Clark as an instructor and a get fit attitude, Zumba class continues to thrive at the Takoma Park Recreation Center. On Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m. and Saturdays at 9:15 a.m., Kim leads everyone through a workout with hypnotic Latin, Reggae and Meringue rhythms and easy to follow moves. Kim has one goal for everyone: she wants you to Join The Party and Dance the Inches Away. For more information contact John Webster at 301-891-7290. *(Recreation)*

19. Fall 2012 Class Proposals - Only Three Weeks Left: The Takoma Park Recreation Department is looking for qualified contractors to instruct professional quality classes for all ages this fall. Interested individuals should submit a resume and class proposal no later than Thursday, May 24 to LewM@takomagov.org. Any proposals submitted after the due date will not be reviewed. For additional information please contact Lew McAllister at Lewm@takomagov.org or (301)891-7284. *(Recreation)*

20. Summer Camp Spotlight - Dance Camp: Do you often find your child getting their groove on every time they hear music or listen to their favorite song? Well, the Recreation Department has just the fix they need, a Dance Camp! Ballet, Tap and Creative Dance is used to allow girls and boys the opportunity to enhance talents with skills and techniques taught during the session. Children will learn basic dance skills, rhythm, musicality and improvisation. Instructors will focus on building self-esteem and personal creativity which will allow them to gain confidence in the craft of dance. Fun and excitement will be integrated into each routine. At the end of each session, campers will be given the opportunity to highlight and showcase what they have learned with a performance. To view session dates and times please visit: www.takomaparkmd.gov/recreation. For additional information, please contact Lew McAllister at (301)891-7284 or LewM@takomagov.org. *(Recreation)*

21. Is Censorship Ever Justified? The award-winning Banned Books Club will examine this weighty issue as they discuss racist stereotypes in some of the "Tintin" books by Herge. This discussion is open to kids from third grade and up, and there is no required reading before the program. Preregistration is encouraged. Call 301-891-7259. *(Library)*

22. The Chief at the County: On April 30, Chief Ricucci attended the Montgomery County Council Government Operations Sub-Committee meeting in Rockville; also, the Chief, as well as other members of the Police Department and other City departments, attended the promotional ceremony of Charlie Hoetzel and Michelle Holmes. *(Police)*

23. The Hazard Plan: On May 3, Captain Coursey participated in the third meeting in a series of working meetings to revise the Montgomery County Hazard Mitigation Plan. The County plan, which the City adopted by resolution, was last revised in 2007, and requires revision every five years. If the project remains on schedule the new draft will be provided to the City in September for adoption by the City Council. The City's participation in the development of the plan, and adoption of it, are requirements in order to qualify for any hazard mitigation grant funding in the following five year cycle. Although this part of the country is somewhat less susceptible to most natural hazards, it is possible that projects such as improved tree canopy management in utility rights-of-way, alternative power options to traffic lights during outages, and development and operation of warming or cooling centers could be

funded if or when FEMA mitigation funding becomes available during the cycle. *(Police)*

24. **Community Outreach Officer (Pfc. Carla Magnaye):** On April 28, Community Outreach Officer Carla Magnaye hosted the "Gear Up Takoma" event at the Takoma Park Police Department, as well as the National Prescription Drug Take Back Day event. *(Police)*

25. **Crime Report:** The most recent Takoma Park Police Weekly Crime Report (April 27 – May 3, 2012) may be viewed online at: <http://cathyplevy.blogspot.com/2012/05/takoma-park-police-department-weekly.html>. *(Police)*

26. **Traffic Enforcement:** During April 27 – May 3, 2012, the following details were completed:

April 27, 2012

- Various locations throughout the City (tag reader/suspensions) – conducted a 60-minute detail and issued six State citations for various offenses.

April 28, 2012

- New Hampshire Avenue & Holton Lane (no left turn/no u-turn) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued no citations or warnings.
- 900 block of Merrimac Drive (tag reader/suspensions) - conducted a 90-minute detail and issued 10 State citations for various offenses.

May 2, 2012

- Larch Avenue & Hopewell Avenue (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a 60-minute detail and issued no citations or warnings.
- New Hampshire Avenue & East West Highway (red light enforcement) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued four State citations.

May 3, 2012

- Flower Avenue & Jackson Avenue (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a 60-minute detail and issued three State citations. *(Police)*